

**Repayment of loans taken from Bank of Rajasthan**

†2902. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether repayment of loans worth crores of rupees taken during 1993 to 1998 from Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. are still outstanding;

(b) if so, the details of the amount of such loans and the action taken so far by Government to recover the same alongwith the amount recovered so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The existing reporting system of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate the information asked for. However, as on 31st March, 2006, the gross non-performing assets of the Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. stood at Rs. 136 crore which constituted 3.26% of its gross advances.

(b) and (c) Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. is a private sector bank and Government does not involve itself in such matters of the private banks.

**Increase in direct tax collection**

2903. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that direct tax collection is increased by around 50 per cent as compared to last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have any plans to give relaxation in indirect tax or direct tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Direct Tax collection has increased during April-November, 2006 by 40.12% over the collections made during the corresponding period of last year.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.